

Executive Registry

73-4932

28 AUG
28 1973

Mr. Marvin L. Arrowsmith
Bureau Chief
The Associated Press
1300 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Marv:

With Lew Gulick's departure I am writing you on the matter of his request for the declassification of certain CIA documents concerning the Guatemalan incident of 1954.

Following our refusal to declassify the requested documents last fall, Lew appealed our decision to the Interagency Classification Review Committee (ICRC), established under Executive Order 11652. That Committee has considered the matter at some length. With former Chairman Eisenhower's approval, we withdrew the appeal from the agenda of the ICRC in order to re-examine the requested documents.

We have completed our review and have concluded four documents must remain classified, a decision which you may refer back to the ICRC without further consideration by the CIA Information Review Committee if you so desire. I am glad to be able to advise that we have declassified 15 such documents, with very minor deletions to avoid revealing the intelligence source or method involved. Additionally, it will be possible to declassify an additional 16 documents if other departments concur in that action, which we have requested them to do. I will be in touch with you concerning these documents as soon as possible.

Frankly, we have responded to the narrow definition of your request; that is, we have reviewed daily Intelligence Bulletins and have been unable to find any special "sitreps." While this complies with the precise wording of the original request, I am certain that it does not satisfy your requirements. At the same time, we recognize that you cannot specify documents whose existence you may not know. Likewise, we cannot volunteer to you documents which may compromise.

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intelligence sources and methods. It might be useful in an attempt to be helpful to you and at the same time protect national security information, if we could get together to discuss ways of resolving our sometimes contradictory objectives.

Incidentally, the charge for searching for the records, at \$6.00 per hour or fraction thereof, is \$12.00. In addition, there is a charge of 10¢ per page for copying the documents. This amounts to \$3.20 for the 15 documents. Your remittance in the amount of \$15.20 should be by check or postal money order and should be payable to the Treasurer of the United States. The documents will be forwarded to you as soon as your check is received. The copying charges for the remaining documents will, of course, depend upon the degree to which the other concerned agencies concur with the Agency's proposal that they be declassified and released. You will be billed separately for this service when the other documents are ready for transmittal.

Sincerely,

/s/ Angus MacLean Thuormer

Angus MacLean Thuormer
Assistant to the Director

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GFD: [redacted] CES:slm (21 August 1973)

Distribution:

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